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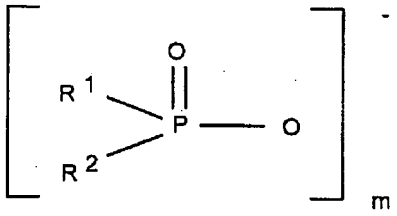
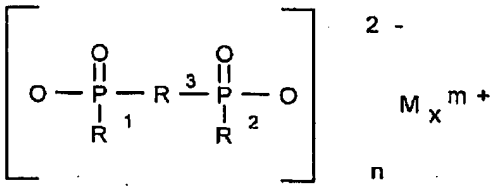
Serial No.: 10/526,691
Group: 1796

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination for thermoplastic polymers, comprising, as component A, from 25 to 99.9% by weight of a phosphinic acid salt of the formula (I) a diphosphinic acid salt of the formula (II) a polymer of the phosphinic acid salt, a polymer of the diphosphinic acid salt or mixtures thereof



M^{m+} (I)



M_x^{m+} (II)

where

R^1, R^2 are the same or different and are each C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, or aryl;

R^3 is C_1-C_{10}-alkylene, linear or branched, C_6-C_{10}-arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4;

x is from 1 to 4,

as component B, from ~~20 to 50%~~ 0 to 75% by of melamine polyphosphate and, as component C, from 0.1 to 50% by weight of basic or amphoteric oxide, hydroxide, carbonate, silicate, borate, stannate, mixed oxide hydroxide, oxide hydroxide carbonate, hydroxide silicate or hydroxide borate or a mixture thereof, the sum of the components being 100% by weight.

2. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1, R^2 are the same or different and are C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, or phenyl.

3. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1, R^2 are the same or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl or phenyl.

4. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, n-dodecylene; phenylene, naphthylene; methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, tert-butylnaphthylene; phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene or phenylbutylene.

5. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein M is a calcium, aluminum or zinc ion.

6. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein component C is magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, aluminum oxide, zinc oxide, manganese oxide tin oxide or a mixture thereof.

7. (Previously Presented) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein component C is aluminum hydroxide, boehmite, dihydrotalcite, hydrocalumite, magnesium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, zinc hydroxide, tin oxide hydrate, manganese hydroxide, zinc borate, basic zinc silicate or zinc stannate.

8. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1, further comprising from 50 to 80% by weight of component A, from ~~20 to 50%~~ 0 to 75% by weight of component B and from 2 to 20% by weight of component C.

9. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition, comprising a flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the plastic used is a thermoplastic polymer selected from the group consisting of high-impact polystyrene, polyphenylene ether, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates andblends or polymer blends of acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene or polyphenylene ether/high inpact polystyrene.

11. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the plastic is selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters and polyphenylene ether/high impact polystyrene blends.

12. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 9, comprising from 2 to 50% by weight % of the flame retardant stabilizer combination, based on the plastic molding composition.

13. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 9, comprising from 10 to 30% by weight of the flame retardant stabilizer combination, based on the plastic molding composition.

14. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant plastic molding composition comprising a flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 8.

15. (Previously Presented) A polymer article comprising a flame retardant-stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 1.

16. (Previously Presented) A polymer article as claimed in claim 15, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of high-impact polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates and blends or polymer blends of acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polyamide, or polyester, and mixtures thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) A polymer article as claimed in claim 15wherein the flame retardant-stabilizer combination is present in an amount of from 2 to 50% by weight, based on the polymer content.

18. (Previously Presented) A polymer article as claimed in claim 17, wherein the flame retardant-stabilizer combination is present in an amount of from 10 to 30% by weight, based on the polymer content.

19. (Previously Presented) A polymer article as claimed in claim 15, wherein the polymer article is in the form of a body, film, thread or fiber.